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PATENT APPLICATION  
Attorney Docket Q68149

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Sumito NAKAGAWA, et al.

Appln. No. 10/031,406

Confirmation No.: Not yet Assigned

Filed: January 18, 2002

For: STEEL CORD FOR THE REINFORCEMENT OF RUBBER ARTICLES, RUBBER-STEEL CORD COMPOSITE BODY, RADIAL TIRE, MOTORCYCLE RADIAL TIRE AND TIRE



Group Art Unit: Not yet Assigned

Examiner: Not yet Assigned

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a

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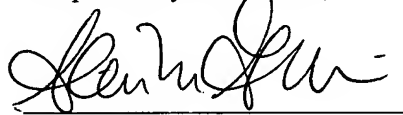
U.S. Appln. No. 10/031,406

request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the relevancy requirement for foreign language documents, Applicants enclose herewith an English language Abstract of JP Patent 2935481, which corresponds to Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication No. 04362402A. The remaining references listed on the PTO-1449 are cited in the ISR, which is enclosed. It is noted that JP 9-228274 corresponds to EP 790349, and JP 9-13289 corresponds to USP 5,722,226.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 12, 2002

Substitute for form 1449 A & B/PTO		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	10/031,406		
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Confirmation Number	Not yet Assigned		
		Filing Date	January 18, 2002		
		First Named Inventor	Sumito NAKAGAWA		
		Unit	Not yet Assigned		
		Examiner Name	Not yet Assigned		
Sheet	1	Of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q68149

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 5722226		3/3/1998	Matsumaru
		US			
		US			
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		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		JP	04-232035	A	8/20/1992	Pirelli Coordinamento Pneumatici SPA	Abstract
		JP	04-362-402	B2	12/15/1992	Sumitomo Rubber Ind. LTD.	Abstract
		JP	9-228274	A	9/2/1997	NV Bekaert Societe Anonyme	
		JP	9-67784	A	3/11/1997		
		JP	9-13289	A	1/14/1997		
		EP	7-90349	A1	8/20/1997	N.V. Bekart S.A. Zwevegem	
		EP	4-61646	A	12/18/1991	Perilli Coordinamento Pneumatici	

## OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.